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Bakhtar News Agency

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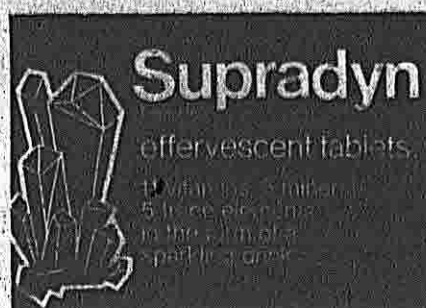
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## Green Beret Camp Near Khe Sanh Under Attack

### Sporadic Viet Cong Action In Saigon Still Continue

SAIGON, Feb. 7, (AP).—A special forces camp near Khe Sanh was hit by heavy ground attack early today in the northwest corner of South Vietnam.

Under attack was the Lang Vei "Green Beret" camp. Khe Sanh is the marine base that has been bracing for an all-out attack in the face of four North Vietnamese divisions believed in the area along the demilitarized zone.

The marine base and marine positions on hills around it have been shelled regularly and at times hit with ground attacks.

It was felt that the special forces camp—made up of U.S. advisors and civilian irregular forces—was especially vulnerable to the enemy offensive.

The U.S. command said Lang Vei came under mortar, and artillery fire just before midnight Tuesday. About one hour later the camp "was under heavy ground attack", a spokesman said, "and at 3 a.m. it was reported that the camp defenders were fighting from their bunker positions."

This was taken to mean that the enemy force of unknown size had penetrated the camp perimeter and that close quarter fighting was going on in the position itself.

The spokesman said tactical air strikes and artillery support from the Marine base at Khe Sanh were aiding the camp defenders.

In another attack early Wednesday, 56 rounds of 82-millimeter mortar fire were reported to have hit the base camp of the U.S. 25th Infantry Division at Cu Chi, 40 km west of Saigon.

South Vietnamese headquarters said seven tanks and armored cars, came from the direction of Laos for the attack on the camp. Headquarters spokesmen said four tanks were destroyed in the fighting, but contact with the camp was lost at 4:20 a.m., and that reconnaissance planes flying over the camp at daylight reported they saw North Vietnamese troops take the position.

They said four companies of ci-

villian irregulars and an unknown number of American Green Beret advisors had been in the camp.

Earlier reports also had said there were a number of refugees from recent fighting in Laos in the camp who had fled across the nearby border.

The U.S. command in Saigon reported that the Lang Vei camp was under heavy attack, but did not report that tanks were being used.

South Vietnamese spokesmen said a reconnaissance plane, had reestablished radio contact with civilian irregular troops after the government force had withdrawn from the camp.

They said later they did not know if enemy troops still were inside the camp, but that the position near the Khe Sanh marine base had been overrun.

Four Americans were killed and 17 wounded, headquarters spokesmen reported.

(Continued on page 4)

## UNCTAD No Forum For Politics: Rostow

NEW DELHI, Feb. 7, (Reuter).—The United States yesterday appealed to the UN Conference on Trade and Development to banish politics and get on with the job of trying to bridge the widening gap between the world's rich and poor.

The chief American delegate, Under-Secretary of State Eugene Rostow, told the meeting: "We have to deal with immense problems of human welfare."

"I appeal to all to concentrate on the difficult, practical problems before us and to put aside for other occasions political problems we cannot here resolve."

His appeal came after African, Asian, East European, and some Latin American delegates staged their second walkout at the conference since it started last week.

As on the first occasion, they streamed out Tuesday when the South African delegate rose to speak.

Nearly 1,000 of the 2,500 delegates from 131 nations who have come to New Delhi for the two-month long conference left the hall in protest against South Africa's apartheid policies.

Apart from the south African issue—the conference's most controversial political point so far—the Vietnam war and the Middle East conflict have also been introduced in various statements.

Rostow said Tuesday "UNCTAD is not an appropriate forum for a debate on the events in Vietnam, in the Middle East, or on the complex problems of a German peace treaty."

## EEC Takes Up Dollar Drain Curbs With LBJ

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7, (Reuter).—Jean Rey, president of the European Common Market Commission, arrived here last night for talks aimed at assessing the impact on Europe of U.S. efforts to curb the dollar drain.

Rey will call on President Johnson at the White House today and see Secretary of State Dean Rusk, Treasury Secretary Henry Fowler and other key officials during his three-day visit.

His talks will cover a wide range of trade and financial problems in addition to reviewing the consequences of President Johnson's programme to redress the U.S. balance of payments deficit.

Johnson's proposals to cut the deficit by \$3,000 million include mandatory restrictions on private investment abroad and a formula to tax American tourists travelling outside the Western hemisphere.

Rey flew here from New York where he met UN Secretary-General U Thant and lunched with Mayor John Lindsay Tuesday.

## Casualty Figures Accurate, Says U.S.

SAIGON, Feb. 7, (AFP).—Viet Cong forces have been losing 12 men killed for every American and Saigon government soldier killed since launching their massive offensive January 30, the U.S. military command said this morning.

The Viet Cong have lost 22,748 killed while another 4,914 have been taken prisoners and 5,899 weapons captured, the U.S. spokesman said.

There was no announcement of Viet Cong wounded.

American losses were reported as 614 soldiers killed and another 3,408 wounded.

The latest report of South Vietnamese government losses listed 1,130 killed and 3,831 wounded.

Saigon yesterday reported even higher casualty figures among government troops. The American spokesman was unable to explain this anomaly.

Losses among allied forces included 24 dead and 49 wounded.

The United States Defence Department meanwhile yesterday discounted suggestions that recent claims of heavy communist losses in South Vietnam were exaggerated and described the figures as fairly accurate.

Officials said the casualty figures were all based on body counts and were checked very carefully.

This huge difference between Viet Cong casualties led some radio and press commentators to question how accurate the U.S. figures were.

Defence Secretary Robert S. McNamara, questioned in a television programme Sunday on the figures, acknowledged there might be error and overstatement in claims that 15,000 Viet Cong were killed in the attacks compared with just over 1,300 allied troops. But he called the figures reasonable approximations.

## General Warns Of Second Attack

SAIGON, Feb. 7, (Reuter).—The commander of the United States forces in Vietnam, Gen. William C. Westmoreland, yesterday warned his troops to stand ready for a possible second wave of Viet Cong attacks.

"We cannot relax for a moment," the general told his troops in a congratulatory message.

"We must continue to stand ready for the enemy's possible second wave attack."

General Westmoreland told his troops they had blunted the present Viet Cong offensive and turned the tables.

## NLF Moscow Envoy Predicts Fiercer Struggle Against U.S.

MOSCOW, Feb. 7, (Reuter).—The Moscow ambassador of the South Vietnamese National Liberation Front, political arm of the Viet Cong, predicted yesterday that the struggle against United States forces in his country would grow "fiercer and fiercer."

The ambassador, Dang Quang Minh, told a crowded press conference that the development of events in Vietnam depended entirely on the "U.S. aggressors."

At the same time, he described allegations by U.S. officials that North Vietnamese troops are fighting with the Viet Cong forces in the south as "absolute slander."

Minh also rejected a suggestion that the Viet Cong might agree to form a coalition with the present Saigon government. "Our main aim is the overthrow of the puppet regime" he said.

## De Gaulle Opens Grenoble Winter Olympics

GRENOBLE, Feb. 7, (Reuter).—President Charles de Gaulle yesterday declared open the 10th Winter Olympic games in one of the most colourful opening ceremonies of any Winter Olympiad.

The shore-shoe shaped open stadium was specially built for the opening and closing ceremonies to hold 60,000, but around 150,000 people thronged the beflagged area at the end of the newly-constructed Olympic Way.

The colourful ceremony was watched live on television by millions of viewers throughout the world.

## U.S. Military Command Asserts South Korea Will Be Defended

SEOUL, Feb. 7, (AFP).—Gen. Charles Bonesteel, the top American military commander in South Korea, today assured South Korea that the United States would unfailingly defend South Korea from any unprovoked North Korean attack.

In a special statement released early this morning, Bonesteel also advised South Korea to co-operate closely with the United States at this time of stress.

He was apparently referring to the South Korean government's threat to take unilateral military action against North Korea if the United States failed to take adequate defence measures.

The statement recalled President Johnson's recent remarks stressing the U.S. commitment in and obligations to South Korea.

Bonesteel's statement came amid loud dissatisfaction here over alleged American "appeasement"

of North Korea over the Pueblo incident.

Meanwhile the South Korean national assembly yesterday unanimously passed a resolution expressing "national anger" over negotiations the United States is now conducting at Phamunjom over the Pueblo incident.

The resolution sunk still further Washington-Seoul relations, already strained over the fact that South Korea has been excluded from negotiations with North Korea.

The resolution demanded that President Park Chung Hee's government work for revision of the U.S.-Korean defence pact to assure adequate self-defence against alleged North Korean military provocations and take strong measures against any aggression.

It insisted that the recent North Korean commando raid incident was far more serious than the Pueblo affair.

The resolution also demanded that the government take unilateral action in necessary in case of further North Korean provocations.

In fact, official sources had earlier reported that South Korea gave assurances it would take "firm" measures to forestall any provocations.

The sources said the threats were verbally conveyed by Premier Chung Ilkwon to U.S. ambassador William Porter and U.S. Gen. Charles Bonesteel, United Nations Commander, in the premier's office this morning.

## Rumania Raises Objections To Nonproliferation Treaty

GENEVA, Feb. 7, (AFP).—Rumania Tuesday raised objections to the U.S.-Soviet draft treaty for the nonproliferation of

nuclear arms.

Speaking at the 362nd session of the 17-Nation Disarmament Conference here, Rumanian delegate Nicolae Ecobesco objected to the lack of security guarantees for non-nuclear nations.

He also complained that the draft lacked a "firm judicial obligation" for nuclear powers to undertake concrete disarmament measures, regarding both nuclear and conventional arms.

Ecobesco charged that the draft's allowances for inspection were "profoundly discriminatory" because the five nuclear powers would escape all inspection.

According to a DPA despatch the United States told Rumania at the Geneva disarmament conference Tuesday that a nuclear nonproliferation treaty could not treat all parties equally.

De Palma said that in the case of an economic agreement, one could hope for concessions from the other side equal to those one was willing to make oneself.

But a treaty to stop the spread of nuclear weapons was different. It could not be the result of balanced mutual concessions.

## Dustmen Strike Worrying N. Y. Health Dept.

NEW YORK, Feb. 7, (Reuter).—Piles of rotting rubbish, accumulating at an estimated rate of 10,000 tons a day, littered New York streets yesterday with no sign of a return to work by the city's striking dustmen.

Mayor John Lindsay ordered 70 hospitals to remove their own rubbish—promising police protection from dustmen's pickets if necessary—after a tour of the dirt-laden streets.

He said the mounting piles of garbage posed a very serious hazard to health. It could become critical. But a spokesman for the hospital workers union said its members would honour the dustmen's pickets and refuse to move the rubbish.

As the strike went into its fifth day there was no sign of any union reaction to Monday's Supreme Court injunction ordering the city's 10,000 dustmen back to work. They are demanding pay increases.

Judge Saul Streit, granting the injunction under a state law barring strikes by public employees, said the stoppage was not really a strike—it is blackmail and extortion.

Overflowing bins in the streets and courtyards of buildings have attracted stray dogs and cats and health officials fear an invasion of rats if the foul-smelling mounds are not removed soon.

## Wilson Endorses Son Antonio Viet Peace Proposals

LONDON, Feb. 7, (Reuter).—Prime Minister Harold Wilson made it clear yesterday that Britain stood by the approach to a Vietnam solution outlined by President Johnson in his San Antonio speech last October.

On the eve of his departure for talks in the United States, Wilson told the House of Commons:

"What I shall say in Washington is exactly what I said in Moscow with regard to our position in Vietnam, and with regard to the basis on which peace can be found in Vietnam following the San Antonio speech."

In San Antonio, President Johnson said the United States was willing to immediately stop aerial and naval bombing of North Vietnam when this would lead promptly to productive ceasefire discussions.

More than 80 members of Wilson's Labour Party last night called on the British government to dissociate itself from American policy in Vietnam.

The demand, on the eve of the British prime minister's three-day visit to Washington, came in an amendment to Monday's Conservative opposition motion urging support for the American stand.

The amendment, signed by both left-wing and right-wing Labour members, called on the government to act instead in accordance with a resolution carried at the Labour Party's conference at Scarborough last October.

The October resolution urged British support for United Nations Secretary General U Thant and the overwhelming majority of UN members in seeking to persuade the U.S. government to end bombing of North Vietnam "immediately, permanently and unconditionally".





## THE KABUL TIMES

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### Food For Thought

Call no man happy till you know

the nature of his death; he is at

best but fortunate.

Herodotus

### New Oil Mill

The new Lashkargah edible oil plant was officially inaugurated by the Minister of Mines and Industries Engineer Abdul Samad Saleem today. The plant, which will initially produce 900 tons of edible oil annually, is a symbol of friendship between Afghanistan and the United Kingdom. The cotton seed-oil mill and refinery in the Helmand Valley, which is one of the first major and complete capital assistance project undertaken by Britain in Afghanistan, will push the Helmand Valley further towards industrialisation.

It will also provide the valley with the opportunity to use more of its newly brought land under irrigation and cultivation for cotton.

The plant in a way limits the goal of the Helmand Valley to the cultivation of cotton plantation alone. Any surplus that the Helmand Valley may have of cotton can easily be exported. Thus the plant offers an incentive to the Valley Authority to raise the production of the cotton to such a level, as soon as possible, so as to meet the requirements of the plant, and export demands.

It is interesting to note that soap, and oil seed cakes, (the latter being a major feeding source for cattle) are the by products of this plant.

Now that we have the plant at our disposal, we can safely hope to attain self-sufficiency in edible oil in the near future. With the help of two other major edible oil plants in the country, and the limited quantity of cattle fat produced by the farmers, there is every likelihood of our success in attaining our objective provided we adopt immediate measures to raise cotton production.

The plant is a sign of friendship between Afghanistan and Britain and we hope that mutual trade and commercial ties will further expand between the two countries.

### Fire Hazards

Fortunately, there have been no big fires in the city this winter so far. The big fire in the Ahmad Shah trade market in Kabul about two years ago was a good eye opener to the citizens of Kabul and the owners of houses and big commercial establishments. Some precautionary measures were adopted, but they are still not adequate.

The Kabul municipality has neither enforced the regulations regarding the possession of fire extinguishers in all the markets, government buildings and industrial plants, nor has it sent inspectors to important places to check up whether such measures have actually been adopted or not.

However, some small fire mishaps have been reported from private houses recently. And strangely enough, out of every two reports to the police, one happens to be from a house rented by foreigners. This has caused not only great anxiety about the houses themselves but a sense of distrust has been caused for the lack of interest on the part of the house tenants. Enquiries revealed that the foreigners are careless in keeping the houses.

For one thing the contracts they have with the Afghan house owners make them completely devoid of any responsibility in case of the destruction of the house by fire. Moreover, they consider the landlord responsible to do everything for them once they are in the house, thus not even cleaning the chimneys of their homes although it costs them practically nothing.

Most of the fires start because of stuffed chimneys. Shorts in electrical wiring and appliances are considered to be the second main reason of the fires.

We hope that all concerned will take the necessary measures to see that the property they rent temporarily is not destroyed due to negligence.

## Still, Small Voice Of Opposition In Rhodesia

The comparative failure of the latest attempt to consolidate white opposition in Rhodesia to Ian Smith's Rhodesian Front will no doubt disappoint the British Government and Smith's many African enemies. But it should not surprise them.

Ever since the Front came to power in 1962, the Party machine has diligently increased its hold over the white electorate.

It uses party discipline and press censorship, backed by its hold over radio and television, to eliminate ruthlessly any signs of the stirring of "moderate" consciences.

In the Front's view, all political discussion which challenges its own rule must be suppressed, and "everyone who's not with us is against us. Everyone who's against us is a communist and a traitor."

In the current "laager" atmosphere of Rhodesia, what is really surprising is that Bob Williams' Rhodesia Constitutional Association should have believed itself strong enough to launch a "straw poll" of three representative constituencies, declaring itself willing to face an electoral decision.

Williams farms maize near Salisbury. He is a quiet, sincere man, unusually articulate for a farmer.

He has never taken part before in politics—even farming politics which have been the nursery for many Rhodesian politicians in the past.

His elevation to the position of dubious distinction in which he is the focus of opposition to Smith is probably due to the necessity for progressive figures from the old Rhodesia National Party and United Federal Party to stay in the background.

The Rhodesia Constitutional Association was formed after the Rhodesia National Party, which had already rejected Sir Edgar Whitehead's leadership, had failed to win any of the 50 seats controlled by the

white electorate in the May 1965 elections in Rhodesia.

For nearly three years it has been little more than a luncheon club and debating society whose main impetus came from its women members. But now it seems prepared to try to play a direct political role in Rhodesia.

There are signs that the white opposition has been moving towards some degree of consolidation. The Forum, a group of business and professional men, was formed after the Tiger talks.

It has hitherto completely refused to give itself any political identity, seeking support for a negotiated settlement from members of the RF as much as from any others, in the belief that any change must come from within the dominating party.

It declared support for "the government of the day in any endeavour it may make to secure an honourable settlement." This prevented it from associating itself with any opposition group.

In fact there were individual links on the original Forum Committee between the RCA and the Forum, and there have been meetings between the "Working Core" of the Forum and the Executive of the RCA from as far back as May last year.

An understanding was reached that the RCA should refrain from embarrassing the Forum by any open cooperation.

The Forum is essentially a group of men whose emphasis is on the economic disadvantages of the present situation, although it has declared that settlement involves acceptance of Britain's six principles.

Very well-known in commercial, professional and industrial circles, none of its ten-man "working core" is a public figure clearly associated with political activity in the past. Deliberately it seeks to offer cor-

porate committee leadership rather than a personality. It has no formal chairman or president.

It is determined not to be associated with the old discredited political names, not so much from disapproval of their policies as from the belief that the electorate would never accept them.

This is why it has been outwardly cool towards David Butler, who succeeded Sir Edgar Whitehead and other leading European progressive politicians such as Sydney Sawyer, Roger Hackwill or General Anderson, the former Rhodesian Commander-in-Chief.

The Forum and the RCA, representing broadly the right and centre wings of the white opposition, are now closer than ever before.

But their active supporters between them do not amount to more than 10% of the electorate—as proved again by the results of the "show poll."

More important than the modest degree of rapprochement among white moderates, is the increasing militancy of the Asians and Coloureds.

They have now formed their own National Association of Coloured People which is likely to have closer links with African nationalists than with any white party if racial discrimination continues to be tightened.

There is no longer apparent any chance of African, Coloured and white opposition to the Rhodesian Front working within one party, something Sir Edgar Whitehead's RNP for a short while nearly achieved.

Williams cannot have expected to win white majority support.

But he must have believed that he could afford to delay no longer if there is to be any European voice at all in the opposition. (GEMINI)

## 500 Newsmen Cover UNCTAD Meeting

Over 1,600 people from the UNCTAD member countries and numerous representatives of specialised international, interstate and non-governmental organisations have arrived in Delhi to take part in the United Nations Second Conference on Trade and Development.

Close interest of the world press to the conference is proved by the fact that approximately 500 correspondents are accredited with the UNCTAD secretariat. The conference was opened by UNCTAD Secretary General Radul Prbisch.

A message of greetings to the Conference from the United Nations Secretary General U Thant was read out. In his message U Thant expressed regret that he was unable to arrive in Delhi because of the international situation and stressed the great importance of this Conference as one of the most important events in international economic life. The United Nations Secretary General emphasised the great role of mutual understanding and cooperation in ensuring universal peace.

Prime Minister of India Indira Gandhi addressed the participants in the Conference in a speech of greetings. She stressed the significance of many decisions of the first UNCTAD Conference held in Geneva in 1964 and declared that the practical actions in the course of the past four years far from tallied with the above mentioned decisions.

Meanwhile, Gandhi says, the needs of developing countries are becoming increasingly pressing and acute with every passing year.

She also spoke of the difficulties experienced by many developing countries. In a number of cases, she

declared, the structure of their economic relations had been inherited from the colonial past.

Generally known is the role played by colonialism in exploiting dependent countries.

Noting that developing countries themselves should bear main responsibility for their development, Indira Gandhi stressed that political control on the part of foreign countries holding economic positions in their hands is incompatible with the provisions of the UN Charter. The Prime Minister called for working out a single programme for international cooperation aimed at the elimination of poverty, and also at putting the economic forces of society at the service of peace and progress. Peace and prosperity are indissoluble, she said.

At its plenary meeting held in the House of Science in the afternoon, the conference unanimously elected the head of India's delegation and Minister of Commerce, Dinesh Singh, chairman of the conference.

Having thanked the conference for the trust, Dinesh Singh particularly stressed the importance of close cooperation of all the delegates for making the Conference successful.

The Conference received greetings from heads of state and government of a number of countries. The Conference warmly welcomed a message from the Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Alexei Kosygin, read at the meeting.

The provisional agenda of the Conference envisages the discussion of a wide range of urgent questions of international economic cooperation at plenary meetings and in five committees.

These questions are general tendencies and problems of world trade and economic development including questions of trade between countries with different social systems, problems of trade in raw materials, measures for increasing export of manufactured goods and half-finished products from developing countries, questions of financing and economic aid, problems of economic integration of developing countries and ways of ensuring quicker development of the least developed countries.

Many of these questions were discussed at Geneva where a number of important recommendations were adopted designed to contribute to the speeding up of economic development of the liberated countries, stabilisation of the situation in world markets, liquidation of artificial barriers of discrimination in trade. Principles of international trade relations and trade policy outlined at Geneva could have brought most favorable results if consistently carried into life.

Under these conditions, the call-up of the Second UN Conference on Trade and Development acquires particular importance. Representatives of Socialist states and also of many countries recently liberated from the colonial yoke have arrived to the conference with the intention to turn the UNCTAD into an effective body of international economic cooperation ensuring the establishment of just and equal-right economic relations between states, promoting overcoming the grave inheritance of the colonial past and cessation of the policy of neo-colonialism. (TASS)

## HOME PRESS AT A GLANCE

Today *Istah* carries an editorial stressing the importance of hotels in the promotion of tourism.

It praised the efforts of the organisations concerned with the construction of the new 200 bed Melma Pal hotel in Baghe Bala. The editorial suggested that many more hotels in the capital as well as in the provinces are needed as the tourist industry develops in the country and expressed the hope that this challenge will be met by the private sector.

The same issue carried a letter to the editor suggesting that the medical team accompanying the Afghan Hajis to Jeddah should be equipped with a mobile laboratory. The team comprised of doctors and nurses is well supplied with medications.

However, laboratory tests are difficult to carry out while travelling outside the country. Therefore, suggested the letter the Ministry of Public Health which is in a position now to provide such mobile laboratory arrangement should take the necessary steps.

Yesterday's *Heywad* carried an editorial welcoming the step taken by the Afghan Bus Company to arrange for bus transportation for the Afghan Haj pilgrims.

Two kinds of people usually travel by road. First those who cannot afford the air passage and secondly those who want to see places while travelling.

In both cases the provision of adequate overland transportation was a definite need. The first attempt may however present certain obstacles due to lack of experience.

However, in the future these problems will gradually be solved. The editorial also expressed concern over the fact that this step may harm Afghan Ariana Airlines which used to be the major carrier of Haj pilgrims.

Yesterday's *Anis* touched on the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development Delegates from many countries, both developing and developed, are meeting in New Delhi in their second attempt in three years to bridge the gap between the rich and the poor nations. Seven years ago, it said, the Uni-

ted Nations declared a development decade aimed at raising the living standard of the developing nations by world shows that this target is not being met. The gap between the pace.

Some of the delegates representing the industrialised world have promised to increase their aid to the developing countries, while others have stressed their own financial and economic problems.

In its Monday's number *Ekonomika Politika*, Belgrade economic weekly passed—review of state of things prevailing in South Vietnam on the heel of the succession of offensive thrusts fanned out by the National Liberation Front.

The still lasting psychological shock that swooped down on U.S. troops taken a back and bewildered through a whole string of heavy attacks spearheaded by Viet Cong in strength has so much robbed Americans of their morale that they are bound not to pull themselves together once again.

For some time now U.S. official figures and military strategists used to say it confidently that in the Vietnam battlefields the over all situation has been taking turn for the better in the fortune of war smiling upon the U.S. army and that its foes have neither strength nor means left for acting on the offensive, the paper recalled.

That was why NLF's latest many-pronged assaults in force "gave the lie in face of the whole world to their allegations" about the dwindling fighting spirit gaining ground among the Viet Cong fighters in embattled South Vietnam, the weekly added.

*Time* Magazine reported Monday that President Johnson made each member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff sign a document stating that they believed the important Marine base at Khe Sanh could be defended against the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese.

The editorial expressed the hope that the eventual outcome of the conference would lead to the further liberalisation of world trade.

The export of raw materials and semi-manufactured goods from the developing countries must increase considerably before they could possibly hope to import all the capital goods required to spur their economies, it said.

"I don't want any damned Dien Bien Phu," he was reported as telling them at a White House meeting.

The magazine said he cross-examined the Joint Chiefs at great length about the wisdom of defending the outpost. He was assured it could be held.

In an extraordinary gesture, apparently designed to alert everyone to the gravity of the situation, Johnson then made each Chief sign a paper saying that he believed Khe Sanh could be defended, *Time* said.

The commander and some of the crew of the U.S. monitoring ship Pueblo locked themselves in and tossed secret documents and equipment through a porthole after North Koreans seized their vessel in January 23, the *New York Times* said Sunday.

The newspaper-quoting reliable sources, including members of Congress who, it said, had been briefed at the highest level said the destruction went on for at least 45 minutes.

In a Washington dispatch, Correspondent Hedrick Smith said: Commander Lloyd M. Bucher and his men apparently worked furiously to destroy code books and equipment, many parts and pieces of which was tossed through a porthole.

"They fended off North Korean sailors as best they could and apparently used explosives of some sort to destroy some of the secret equipment."

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S. KHALIL, Editor-in-Chief  
Telephone: 24047

SHAFIE RAHEL, Editor

For other number first dial switchboard number 23043, 24028, 24026

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## Mould Menace In Foodstuffs

In 1960 hundreds of thousands of turkeys being fattened for Christmas in Britain died suddenly and mysteriously from a disease so inexplicable that it was referred to as "Turkey Disease".

Night-and-day detective work at British laboratories revealed that all the birds affected had eaten turkey feed made from one particular consignment of imported groundnuts. The discovery opened up nightmare prospects. Groundnuts were being increasingly relied upon both as a cash crop in poor countries and as a high-protein foodstuff on the spot in the areas where the world's food and population problem was most acute.

Since that time intensive research has revealed the menace of the mould fungi which can grow on tropical crops—and has also opened the way to protecting human beings and animals against these dangers.

A team of chemists at London's Tropical Products Institute, one of the world's leading centres for investigating all kinds of problems affecting tropical areas, found that damage had been done to the livers of the turkeys by a poison called aflatoxin, produced by a microscopic mould called *Aspergillus Flavus*—a name

which has now become notorious throughout the tropical world.

*Aspergillus* grows very readily on almost any crops stored in damp conditions. Over the last seven years, many laboratories have joined the hunt to find means to abolish the risk to human health which must be caused by *Aspergillus* and related fungi.

One notable feature of this research campaign has been the tremendous extent of international co-operation. One of the reports, for example, comes from doctors at Makerer University College at Kampala in Uganda and the Neffield Institute of Comparative Medicine in London, who have made a joint study of the extent to which groundnuts offered on sale for human consumption in Uganda may be contaminated by aflatoxin.

Groundnuts in Uganda are probably better stored than in most parts of the world and yet no single sample the doctors examined proved to be completely free of the poisonous chemical.

This does not mean that eating groundnuts is necessary dangerous. For one thing, the amount of contamination and the amount of aflatoxin which anyone eating groundnut products would possibly take in is many times less than the doses which have been found to be fatal for ani-

mals.

The authors say themselves that if the eating of contaminated groundnuts has any link with human liver disease—which is certainly common in Uganda and most of Africa—then the role played by the contamination is most likely to be "intermittent and chronic." The probability of a toxic dose being consumed at one meal is almost negligible.

Nevertheless, there are two worrying factors here. One is that the many animal experiments which have now been carried out to try to estimate the danger to humans from aflatoxin and other fungal contamination have not really been of much use, because different species of animals are so widely different in their sensitivity to these poisons.

Another problem is that very little is known of the long-term effects of a diet containing only a small but continuing proportion of aflatoxin as opposed to the short-term effects of a single massive dose of the poison.

Some experts have suggested that a good deal of what has previously been considered to be some sort of general effect of tropical conditions, in the way of general lassitude and weakness, (Continued on page 4)



## ISLANDS THAT INSPIRED CHARLES DARWIN



These marine iguanas hardly need the prefix Galapagos, as they don't occur anywhere else in the world. This makes things much easier for the amateur naturalist."



Mrs. Roots compares the size of a baby tortoise with a 500 pound adult of the same species. The giant tortoises now survive on only two of the islands.

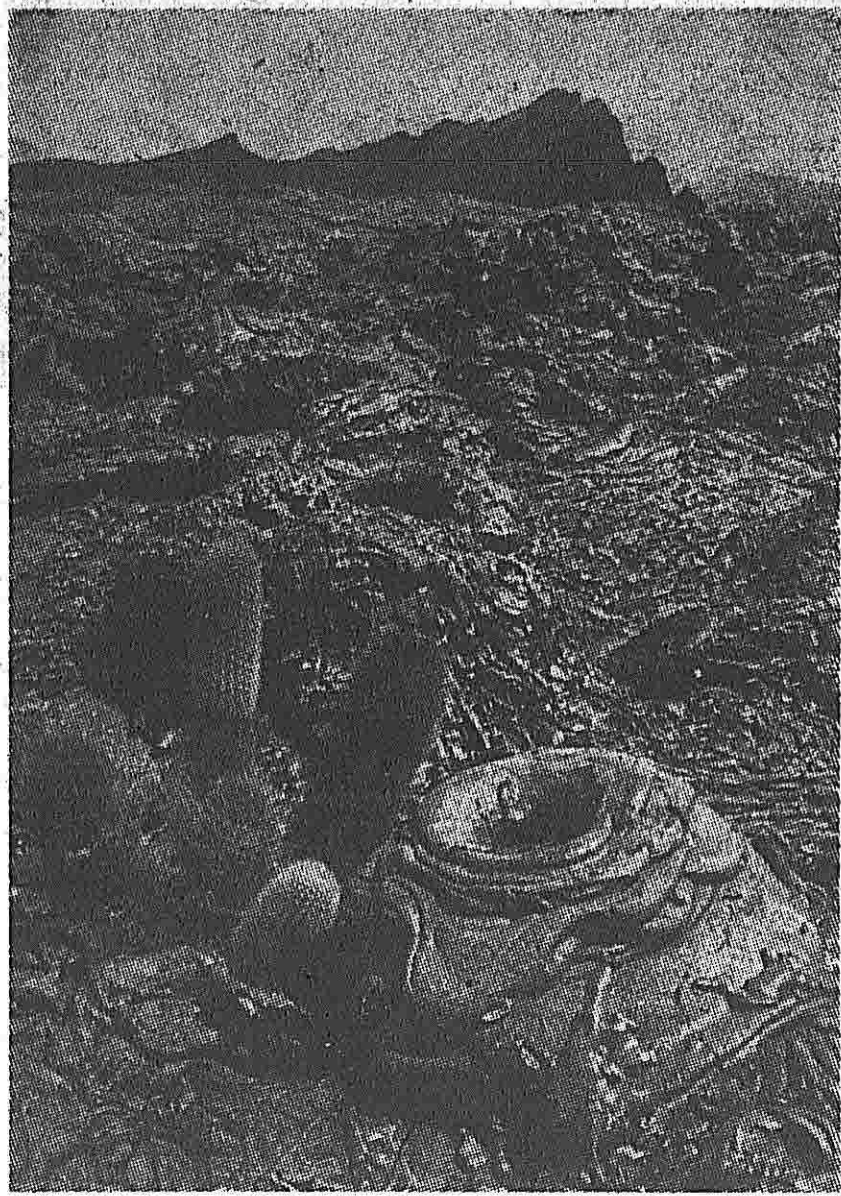
The Galapagos Islands were the inspiration for Charles Darwin's theory of evolution, a century ago. In the Pacific Ocean, 600 miles west of Ecuador, the islands contain species of wild life which are unknown elsewhere. A film has been made for Anglia Television by Alan and Joan Roots about the islands and their creatures, which had its charity premiere in aid of the Charles Darwin Foundation at the National Film Theatre on November 27, last year, in the presence of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh. The photographs have been reprinted from the Illustrated London News.



"The thing which struck me most forcibly, as it does anyone who visits the islands, is the incredible, even touching tameness of the animals there. They are fearless of man because apparently the instinct of fear takes many thousands of years to develop."

Top: A Galapagos gull. "There are many strange and interesting creatures living on the island which are found nowhere else in the world". Centre: The frigate bird with its enormous pouch.

"Close to the cliffs of Hood, I was able to watch another fascinating sea bird: the blue-footed booby. During the breeding season, the blue-footed booby makes full use of its bright blue feet."



The landscape has a peculiar quality all of its own. There is no rain to erode the blue-black floors, so it all looks just like solidified mud.

Around the shores, the Pacific surf has torn out bays and caverns where sea lions make their homes."



Film-maker Alan Roots with a suspicious seal: "The lord and master has to keep up a constant offshore patrol lest some courteous intruder should attempt to snatch one of his more flighty wives."

## Sophisticated Toys Show

NUREMBERG, Germany, Feb. 7. (DPA)—With it "Twiggy" dolls, ingenious computers and complete moon rocket launching pads are among the sophisticated toys that will be on show at the 19th international toy fair that opens here this month.

The six-day fair is the biggest of its kind in the world and will be an important market barometer for the world's toy industry, a press conference was told here Friday.

This year, 1,251 firms, including 435 from 28 foreign countries, including Italy, Britain, France, Spain, the United States, Japan, Hongkong, South Africa, Greece, Israel, Portugal and the Soviet Union will take part.

On the programme are also party decorations, novelties and children's books. Prices are to be the same or only a little higher than last year.

The general secretary of the FRG toy industry association, Dr. H.W. Krause, said he was convinced that the West German toy industry would hold its position in the sharply competitive world market.

The total turnover of the West German toy industry in 1967 would probably just fall short of the previous year's figure of 723 million marks, which was more than satisfactory in view of the present economic situation.

West Germany's total toy exports in 1967 are estimated at 250 million marks, seven per cent more than the previous year. Total 1967 toy imports would probably reach the previous year's figure of 184 million marks.

The West German toy industry's most important export markets were the United States (15.8 per cent), followed by the Netherlands (14.5) and France (12.4).

Number one foreign supplier was Japan (19.9 per cent) followed by Italy (15.4), the United States (15.2) and Britain (13.5).

Experts agree that the big hits this year will be dolls, more ingeniously designed than ever before.

Conventional dolls without mechanism will be slim, stylishly dressed and with attractive hairdos, like the Twiggy doll, modelled after Britain's wispy fashion star. A topical note in the Olympic dress.

The Four Months doll, which has been a sensation especially in Sweden, will also be on show here for the first time. It is an exact replica of a four-month old baby, complete with male or female genitalia.

Most ingenious mechanically is another doll, which consists of two hundred parts. It chews its food, sucks its bottle, moving its eyes, and wets its diapers. The singing dolls include a little Italian girl who sings "O Sole Mio."

In the technical world for boys and hobbyists, the "digital radio control system", is the undisputed climax there is also a model of the "wankel" rotary piston engine and a complete moon rocket launching pad, moon tractors and space station.

## Provincial Press

By A Staff Writer

Toloi Afghan of Kandahar Wednesday said that when the law concerning rural projects now being drafted by the Ministry of Interior is passed, it should provide a new impetus for the establishment of rural development projects.

The newspaper says that more than 90 per cent of our population still live in rural areas and for many years to come the ratio of people living outside the cities will be higher than those living in urban areas.

The grand development department, launched in the country within the framework of Five Year Plan 10 years ago has done some effective work improve living condition and economic standard of our people.

But while the department has to be made more effective it is imperative that more areas are brought under its jurisdiction.

Right now only a little more than a million people are covered by the activities of the Rural Development Department. This year more community centres have been opened.

Toloi Afghan says that the ministries of Agriculture and Irrigation, Public Health and Education should be concerned with their activities.

Sanai published in Ghazni commented in a recent editorial on the activities of textile mills. The newspaper says that while within the framework of the Third Five Year Development Plan more textile mills will be built, economists and planners should make sure that the present textile plants in the country can operate at total capacity.

Sanai also hoped that by the end of the third plan cotton needs could be met within the country. Although textile industry is the largest in the country, we still import textiles.

Nangarhar published in Jalalabad commented on a national literacy campaign.

The newspaper says that Afghanistan is among those countries which have the largest portion of illiterates we simply cannot afford to continue like this. Most adults are illiterate and even if we launched nationwide campaign could not be able to cover all of them. Moreover we are still unable to enrol all children in schools. There are, when the present generation of children grows up, those who have been unable to attend schools will be illiterate.

The task before us is difficult. The newspaper says that so far no nationwide plan to really fight illiteracy has been put into practice. And cannot wait too long.

The newspaper recalls a Radio Afghanistan roundtable programme in which the consensus among those participated was that a separate authority should be established to fight illiteracy.

The newspaper says that if we are really interested in solving the problem, a move like this has to be made. This department should act with power and vigour.

It says as in the case of the Afghan Red Crescent Society, this department too should see that a member of the Royal Family is invited to head it.

Ittefaq Islam published in Herat discussed the situation in the Middle East. The newspaper says despite quiet efforts of the UN special envoy fighting still continues and nothing has been done to solve the problem in all other Middle East—the refugee.

The newspaper says that a positive move in solving the problems would be an Israeli withdrawal from recently occupied territories.

Ittefaq Islam adds that even in the Security Council resolution, drafted by Britain, withdrawal of occupation forces was the first step.

The paper says that it should be duty of all countries especially to Israel to persuade her to withdrawal to prove her contention that she wants to live in peace and harmony with her Arab neighbours.

The Arabs, says the paper, have made it clear time and again that they will not make any move as long as their land is occupied.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

I am a collector of money-boxes, calendars and dolls dressed in national costume. I have these items from many countries, but as yet none from Afghanistan, and would like to have some from your country.

Would it be possible for you to mention in your paper about my collecting these articles, and asking any of your readers if they would care to get in touch with me in regard to exchanging them, and if you do print my request, could I ask you to send me a copy of the paper, I would really appreciate your help in this matter.

I display my collections in aid of a charity. I am keenly interested in, namely, the Spastic Children's Welfare Appeal, so consequently I am always on the alert for fresh material and new ideas with which to augment them, and may I also say that my collections of money-boxes, calendars postcards and advertising gadgets are said to be the largest in the Southern Hemisphere.

Thanking you in anticipation of a favourable reply, I am,

Yours very sincerely,  
Mrs. Eleanor Hill  
14 Bourke Street  
Kensington  
Perth  
West Australia

Dear Sir,

I read your article on "The Woman Behind The Nobel Prize" (The Kabul Times, January 14, 1968) with great interest. However, there were a few details which were misleading.

Alfred Nobel was born into a well-known family the members of which made many contributions to science. One of his forefathers was a prominent judge in Sweden towards the end of the 17th century, and was married to the daughter of Olof Rudbeck, founder of modern science in Sweden. In the Swedish Encyclopedia there are seven Nobels, all prominent figures of their time, who were close relatives of Alfred Nobel. With such ancestors surely one cannot say that Alfred Nobel was from a family of Swedish adventurers. As for his education, he was

educated in Sweden, Russia, the United States of America and France. In Paris he studied chemistry with the famous French scientist, Professor Peluze. He spoke and wrote fluently in five languages: Swedish, French, English, German and Russian. He was also very well informed in physics and medicine. I think that is more than average education.

I hope that these facts will help to give a clearer picture of my great compatriot.

Yours faithfully

N.E.E.  
Note:—The reader is an authority on Swedish literature but the article has pointed out was taken from I.W.F. who alone is responsible for these mistakes.

## Strangest Little Nation Of Them All

The mini-est of mini-nations is Nauru—"a parched lump of phosphate". It is an equatorial atoll in the Pacific which counts its area not in square miles but in acres—just 5, 263 of them.

Soon the adults of its 3,100 Nauruans, and some other settlers entitled to vote, will go to the polls to renew the Legislative Council, and to elect Constitutional Assembly to draw up a constitution.

Not only is Nauru becoming independent without a constitution—the first country associated with the British Empire to do so since the U.S.—it has yet to decide such matters as defence and external affairs.

United now the island has been a UN Trust-territory administered by Australia on behalf of the joint trustees—Australia, New Zealand and Britain.

Head Chief Hammer deRobert, the elected leader of the Nauruan people and the dynamic force in the drive for independence, and other Nauruan leaders have made it clear that they would draw close to Australia.

They have said they will set up a "Nauru Office" in Canberra and will most likely use Australian

Missions abroad to maintain overseas links. But to what extent Nauruan foreign policy will follow Australia's is uncertain.

It has been usual for countries associated with Britain which gained independence—particularly since the last war—to settle the question whether to stay within or opt out of the Commonwealth, before independence. Not so Nauru; it will decide in due course.

Chief Hammer has stated categorically that he will not seek United Nations membership for Nauru. This is eminently sensible.

The island will have little to gain for the capital expense of membership and maintenance of a delegation in New York.

Also, any sizeable delegation will have to be counted not so much in numbers as in percentage of the population.

The question of expense should not be taken to mean that the island will not be able to afford it. Next to oil-rich Kuwait, phosphate-rich Nauru has a per capita income higher than any other country.

Each man, woman and child is, in effect, worth £1,600 sterling a year.

At the present rate of extraction, it is estimated that the island has a phosphate-life of at least another 30 years. And the Nauruans have massive plans for when the supply finally runs out.

For the immediate future, however, it is phosphate that is the island's economy.

It has been agreed that Nauru will buy, for about £8 million sterling to be paid over three years, the assets of the British phosphate in the island.

The Nauruans expect to get £4.8.0 a ton for their phosphate which, less extraction and other costs, could mean a net return of £2,10.0 a ton.

Already a new Nauru shipping line is under way. A Scottish shipbuilding firm is making a 6,000-ton vessel on order.

One or two bulk carriers, of about 30,000 tons each, are expected to be ordered shortly from shipyards in Britain, West Germany or Japan.

The young nation, which have a high credit rating, is planning a vast investment programme for the time when the life-phosphate runs dry. But that will not be for a long time yet. (GEMINI)





**KABUL, Feb. 7. (Bakhtar).—**The new graduates of the medicine and pharmacy college of Kabul University were introduced to the First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education Dr. Ali Ahmad Popal by the deputy rector of the university, Dr. Mohammad Siddiq yesterday. Popal drew the attention of the new graduates to the responsibilities they would have to shoulder to protect public health and said their services were significant in improving health of the people. He hoped the graduates would not only work in Kabul but also in the provinces. There are 54 graduates in medicine, and 16 in pharmacy this year. One student on behalf of the others thanked the government and the Ministry of Education for its attention to their education.

## Mould Menace

(Continued from page 2)  
may in reality be due simply to the prevalence of diets containing minute quantities of poison.

What can be done about this infeasible menace to human and animal health? Much has been done already. Various laboratories have prepared a sort of black-list of mould fungi which, like *Aspergillus Flavus*, produce harmful poisons.

Experiments on animals, and on human liver cells in tissue culture, have gone a long way towards showing what should be considered dangerous levels of contamination and how the poisons have their effects. Field workers have devised better means of storing groundnuts and other crops, which reduce the risk of contamination to a minimum.

Methods have been developed for diagnosing the earliest stages of aflatoxin poisoning from samples of the patient's urine, and for detecting the presence of even minute quantities of toxins in sample taken as a routine precaution from stored crops, including cocoa and cashew nuts, chick feed and hay and fodder.

There seems little doubt that the quality of exported foodstuffs is such that they pose no risk to human health from fungal contamination. If there is a danger—and some experts still refuse to agree that this has been demonstrated—then it is to human health in the more remote and primitive areas where such crops are grown.

Certainly the two things most urgently needed now are some means—perhaps by more detailed examination of patients—of determining what really are the harmful levels of intake of these poisons for humans, and some firmly applied standard to which all crops for human consumption must comply. (FWF)

## Weather Forecast

Skies in the central and northern regions of the country will be cloudy with rain and snow in some areas. Yesterday the warmest area of the country was Khost with a high of 13 C, 55 F. The coldest was Lal with a low of -29 C, 84 F. Wind speed in Kabul was recorded at 5 knots yesterday. Yesterday Ghazni had 5 mm rain, N. Salang 30 mm, S. Salang 20 mm and Gardez 6 mm. The temperature at 10 a.m. was -7 C, 19 F.

Yesterday's temperatures:	
Kabul	-2 C -15 C 28 F 5 F
Kandahar	3 C -5 C 26 F 23 F
Herat	-1 C -9 C 30 F 15 F
Mazare Sharif	-10 C -23 C 30 F -9 F
Gardez	-9 C -12 C 15 F 10 F
Ghazni	-6 C -13 C 21 F 8 F

**AT THE CINEMA**

**ARIANA CINEMA**  
At 2:30, 4:30, 7 and 9 p.m. English film  
**IT HAPPENED IN ROME**  
**PARK CINEMA**  
At 2:30, 4:30, 7 and 9 p.m. American film  
**STAGECOACH**

## Southern Yemen

### Budget Deficit Reaches £ 25 M

**ADEN, Feb. 7. (DPA).—**The budget of the Peoples Republic of South Yemen has a deficit of nearly 25 million sterling, according to the Minister of Economics, Commerce and Planning, Feisal Abdul Latif al-Shaabi.

He said in a newspaper interview that the country's budget for the financial year beginning on April first amounted to 33 million sterling while locally raised resources totalled hardly eight million sterling.

"Britain used to make up for the deficit by direct cash subsidies," Shaabi said.

He added that the British government had pledged to pay up to 60 million sterling spread over three years as direct budgetary support to the former federal government.

But this offer was not endorsed during the independence talks held in Geneva last November and it was left to another conference to be held shortly between Britain and Southern Yemen.

Until May this year Britain has promised to pay 12 million sterling towards government expenditures, Shaabi said.

"This deficit places the national government in a huge quandary and at the same time binds Britain to supplement our budget because she was primarily responsible for this staggering problem", the minister added.

He pointed out that the public should realise the embarrassing difficulties in which the national government has found herself upon independence.

## Bikini Cheque Opens Account

**SUTTON, England, Feb. 7. (Reuter).—**Sterling was in good shape here when a girl in a bikini turned herself into a live cheque, with the amount written on her bare midriff. Margaret Hall, 24, stretched out on a bank counter in Sutton Tuesday and on her stomach was written 17 sterling to be paid into the bank to aid a handicapped children's charity.

Cashier Arthur Bannah decided she was acceptable, date-stamped her and credited an account she had opened for the charity. Details of cheque number 02127024 were fed into the computer and Margaret, a shapely housewife, went home.

## South Africa Bans

### All Mixed Marriages

**CAPE TOWN, Feb. 7. (Reuter).—**The South African government took steps Tuesday to close a loophole in its laws against racially mixed marriage contracted abroad.

It introduced in parliament a bill making void in South Africa racially-mixed marriages entered into outside the country by men who are South African citizens or domiciled in South Africa.

The bill, which was given its first reading amends the mixed marriages act banning all marriages between whites and non-whites inside South Africa and invalidates mixed marriages contracted abroad.

## World News In Brief

**WASHINGTON, Feb. 7. (Reuter).—**The United States Tuesday announced a \$ 60 million aid package to Indonesia, comprising \$35 million worth of agricultural commodities and \$ 25 million development loan.

**UNITED NATIONS, Feb. 7. (AP).—**UN Secretary-General U Thant left here late Tuesday for India, the Soviet Union and Britain saying "he would discuss 'everything'" with officials along the way.

**BELGRADE Feb. 7. (AFP).—**Yugoslav President Josip Broz Tito is to pay an official visit to Japan next April, it was learned here last night.

**NORFOLK, VIRGINIA, Feb. 7. (Reuter).—**The U.S. navy destroyer Bache was abandoned last night by its crew of 200 after going aground in choppy seas off the Greek island of Rhodes, the Atlantic fleet command reported.

**POIN MUGU, CALIFORNIA, Feb. 7. (AP).—**The Pacific missile range said six navy men escaped with minor injuries Tuesday when a Bullpup air-to-surface missile struck a 26 metre aviation rescue boat during practice firing.

**MADRID, Feb. 7. (AP).—**A Spanish-UAR commercial protocol was signed at the foreign ministry Tuesday, determining the goods to be exchanged between the two countries during the first six months of this year.

**WASHINGTON, Feb. 7. (AP).—**The national centre for radiological health said Tuesday eight radioactive cylinders are missing and possibly were stolen.

The cylinders, shipped by truck, helicopter and airplane from San Ramon, California, to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, would not cause fatal illness a centre spokesman said, but they could be highly injurious to health.

**NEW YORK, Feb. 7. (AP).—**Governor Nelson A. Rockefeller's name was put on the Wisconsin Republican presidential primary ballot Tuesday, but Rockefeller said he will ask that it be withdrawn.

**WASHINGTON, Feb. 7. (Reuter).—**The U.S. government has

## Blaiberg's Hospital Stay Prolonged

**CAPE TOWN, Feb. 7. (DPA).—**A Grootte Schuur Hospital spokesman yesterday denied that heart transplant patient Philip Blaiberg was again suffering from fluid in the cardiac sac which would have to be drained off.

The background to Tuesday's statement were reports emanating from the hospital that fluid continued to be a major problem in the case of Blaiberg, who received the heart of a young coloured man on January 2.

This fluid formation was no reason for anxiety, but was one of the reasons why Blaiberg could not be discharged at the scheduled time.

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## FRG Scientists Develop New Food Preserve Method

**DUESSELDORF, Feb. 7. (DPA).—**West German scientists have discovered a method of preserving butter and other foods which will greatly help developing countries to exploit their wealth of natural products.

The process, described as "dispersion dehydration" which reduces butter to powder form, was discovered by Bonn University's Physical-Chemical Institute.

Previous methods of dehydrating foods such as fruit, potatoes or berries resulted in the product being "denaturalised" such as loss of albumen, since the process had to be carried out at extreme high or extreme low temperatures.

The dispersion system can be effected at normal room temperature, and is six to 10 times cheaper than for instance freeze dehydration. Furthermore, foods preserved in this manner retain all their vitamins and nutritional value.

Experiments with butter showed that the powdered variety remains edible for about eight to 10 months.

## Britain Unable To Pledge Additional Development Aid

**NEW DELHI Feb. 7. (Reuter).—**Anthony Crosland, president of the British Board of Trade, told the world's developing nations Tuesday that Britain could not promise them immediate additional aid to further their development because of her own economic problems.

But he promised that when Britain's balance of payments position was strengthened, the provision of further development finance would be one of the government's main policy objectives.

Crosland was making the first British speech at the United Nations conference on trade and development which is meeting here to consider how the standard of living gap between the developing and the developed nations can be narrowed.

Britain's reluctance to make any immediate promises was, as expected, in line with United States policy expressed Monday.

France has offered to consider additional aid while West Germany and Japan have both said they will step up their contributions.

Although Crosland was not able

Tuesday to make any offer of overall increased aid for an undertaking now to increase the flow of Britain aid.

These included economic effects of withdrawal from.

Crosland said: "I share the view that more aid is needed. But it would be of no use if, at this moment I gave a precise undertaking now to increase the flow of Britain aid."

"As delegates now, we have been obliged in recent years to concentrate on strengthening our balance of payments and our currency."

For this purpose we had to take stringent measures, palatable alike to our own people, our trading partners, and our friends and allies overseas.

## Oil Plant

(Continued from page 1)

staff who are being initially assisted by a team of British engineers and an accountant.

These experts are being provided under the British Technical Assistance Programme of the Colombo Plan.

During the period of erection three key Afghan personnel were sent to the United Kingdom for advance training in the oil-milling industry, business management, and accountancy.

Speeches of Salim and the British ambassador will be carried tomorrow.)

## Opposition Hits Apartheid Policy

**CAPE TOWN, Feb. 7. (AFP).—**The leader of the opposition United Party yesterday attacked the government's separate-development racial policy, and declared it provided no way to improving relations between whites and non-whites.

De Villiers Graaff, making the opposition's customary no-confidence motion at the beginning of the parliamentary session, attacked the policy as the "vaster illusion" of the government.

The opposition spokesman sharply criticised the economic aspects of the programme which is aimed at establishing new industry near Tribal homelands to curb the migration of jobseeking Africans to industrialised white regions.

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